the ſake then of the *good*, let me bear the evil with patience and without murmuring.

Good when he gives, ſupremely good,
Nor leſs when he denies;
E'en *croſſes*, from his ſovereign hand,
Are bleſſings in diſguiſe.

Merit preferable to Beauty.

A Diamond obſerving a load-ſtone at his ſide in the ſame cabinet, began to queſtion the latter how he came there, as he appeared no better than a common pebble, without any luſtre to recommend him, and concluded with deſiring him to keep his diſtance, and pay a proper reſpect to his ſuperiors. I find, ſaid

ſaid the loadſtone, you are like too many in the world, you judge by *outward* appearances, and it is your intereſt that others ſhould judge by the ſame rule; I muſt own I have nothing to boaſt of in that reſpect; but I may venture to ſay, that I make ample amends for my outward defects by my inward qualities; the great improvement of navigation is owing to me, Great-Britain is indebted to me, for her wealth, ſplendour, and power; I am willing to allow you your due praiſe, you are doubtleſs a pretty glittering bauble but I muſt be convinced that you are of ſome real uſe and benefit, before I can acknowledge that you

BOB SHORT *The Country 'Squire* LONDON, 1781 HASKOLL COLLECTION, THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY Octavo